

# ROCKVILLE

## Reports

City of Rockville Newsletter

Vol. 46 No. 7 July 2000



## Mayor and Council Approve 2001 Budget

In early June, the Mayor and Council approved a \$60.7 million operating budget and \$82.6 million capital budget for Fiscal Year (FY) 2001.

"This budget is designed to maintain premium service levels, address the demands of growth, provide operating support for completed Capital Improvement Program projects, and address the policy initiatives of the Mayor and Council," explained City Manager Mark Pentz.

### Operating Budget

The approved FY2001 operating budget, which will be used for the annual operating expenses of the City's agencies and departments, was slightly higher than the \$59.3 million amount initially proposed by Pentz. It also is approximately \$3 million higher than the \$57.7 million operating budget approved for FY2000.

Some of the additions to the proposed budget include:

- Monies for the creation of a Rockville Regional Youth Orchestra.
- Funding for a pilot mediation program.
- Support for the City's Reaching Individual Self Empowerment program.

In the coming year, residents' property tax rates will remain at the same level — 80.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value. However, as of July 1, there will be a slight increase in water, sewer, and garbage fees.

The water rate was raised 8 cents from \$1.68 to \$1.76 per thousand gallons of consumption, and the sewer charge went up 13 cents from \$2.99 to \$3.12 per thousand gal-

lons of consumption. The refuse rate increased by \$1 to \$21 per month.

"Typical homeowners will see an overall net increase in their municipal services bill of 2.33 percent or \$27.49 for the year," said Pentz.

The operating budget also includes an appropriated fund balance of \$1,762,114 that has been dedicated to supporting one-time purchases, technology improvements, and reserves for future use.

### Capital Budget

The capital budget is a six-year budget which provides funding for the Capital Improvement Programs (CIP). Some of the projects include:

- The extension of Maryland Ave., which will provide access for the new regional library and the proposed parking garage in Town Center.
- The design and construction of the Thomas Farm Community Center.
- Design funds for City Hall expansion.
- The City's share of improvements to the Blue Plains Wastewater Treatment Facility.
- Work on a city-wide bicycle route system, which will connect neighborhoods with schools, shops, and recreational facilities.
- Completion of the Croydon Creek Nature Center at Rockville Civic Center Park.
- Further development of Rockville Town Center.
- A feasibility study and concept design for an addition to the Rockville Municipal Swim Center.

CALL 301-309-3361 FOR MORE INFO

## Get Informed About the Watts Branch Watershed Study

Learn more about the Watts Branch Watershed Study, see how it may affect your neighborhood, and voice your opinion about future plans.

From July 24 through Aug. 18, information about the Watts Branch Watershed Study will be on display at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave. Displays will include background information and summaries of the proposed stormwater management (SWM) and stream stabilization projects for the Watts Branch Watershed. These projects will affect neighborhoods throughout central and west Rockville. The information will help to inform you about the problems in the Watts Branch and the details about the facilities being proposed to address them.

You can stop by to look at the displays at City Hall anytime during normal business hours or in the evening when the building is open to host meetings. After viewing the information, you are encouraged to offer your comments to the City on the proposals.

On July 24 and Aug. 10, City staff will be available at the display from 6 to 9:30 p.m. to answer any questions you may have about the concepts.

Rockville launched the Watts Branch Watershed Study in July 1998, and, at that time, invited residents, environmentalists, and other interested parties to take part. As a result, the City created the Watts Branch Partnership, a group consisting of residents, representatives from civic and homeowner's associations, and City staff, to promote the health of the stream and the Potomac River through collaboration between neighborhoods and government.

The partnership helped to draft the study's framework, reviewed the selection of the consultant, and learned about stream dynamics, stormwater facilities, and stream stabilization. Members also evaluated 54 potential SWM sites to see how well they met two criteria: watershed benefits and constraints such as utility conflicts and land ownership; and issues such as tree and wetland preservation, maintaining recreation features, and aesthetics.

After making these evaluations, the Partnership agreed to move the projects most beneficial to the watershed forward to the concept stage. These include 18 SWM projects and 12 stream stabilization projects, which all will be further investigated by Rockville's consultant. This does

*Continued on pg. 2. . .*

## Calendar of Events

### City Events

**1,5,8,12,15,19,22,26,29**

#### Farmers' Market;

Wednesdays, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; Saturdays, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m.; Middle Lane Lot

#### **3** Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Exhibit Opening;

1-4 p.m.; Josh Holland (drawings and paintings), Mae Rash (drawings and paintings), and Deborah Tomlin (mixed media); Runs through Aug. 1; Artist talk, July 20, 7:30 p.m.; Guided gallery tour, July 21, 10 a.m.; Call 301-309-3354

#### **4** Independence Day Celebration; See pg. 3

#### **4** Independence Day; City Hall closed

#### **6** Kids, Parks, Performing Arts; 6:30 p.m.;

Goombay (Caribbean); Courthouse Sq. (rain site, Glenview Mansion); Free; Call 301-309-3354

#### **9** Glenview Mansion Sunday Afternoon Concert; 2 p.m.; Tom Teasley (jazz, world beat); Conservatory; Free

#### **11,18,25** Brown Bag Concerts; See pg. 3

#### **13** Kids, Parks, Performing Arts; 6:30 p.m.; Mike Rose (magician, comedian); Twinbrook Park (rain site, Twinbrook Community Recreation Center); Free; Call 301-309-3354

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## Hometown Holidays 2000



*The Supremes Starring Mary Wilson invites concert goes on stage during Saturday night's fun. The City estimates that, in spite of the rainy weather, 30,000 people took part in the festivities over Memorial Day weekend in Rockville Town Center. (See photo and video highlights at [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us))*

MAYOR & COUNCIL  
111 Maryland Ave.  
Rockville, Maryland  
20850-2364

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For more information on the Watts Branch Watershed Study, visit [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us)

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**14 Dance Away the Blues (DAB);** 8 p.m.; Senior Center; \$5 in advance, \$7 at the door

**19 Family Arts Night;** 7:30 p.m.; New Line Brass Band; Courthouse Square Park (rain site: F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre); Free

**20 Kids, Parks, Performing Arts;** 6:30 p.m.; Jamal Koram (African-American storytelling); Rockville Civic Center Park (rain site, Glenview Mansion); Free; Call 301-309-3354

**21 Come Out and Play Rockville;** 5:30 p.m.; Rockville Town Center; Free; Call 301-309-3166

**26 Family Arts Night;** 7:30 p.m.; Mystic Warriors; Courthouse Square Park (rain site: Twinbrook Community Recreation Center); Free

**27 Kids, Parks, Performing Arts;** 6:30 p.m.; Sue Trainor (imaginative song); North Farm Park (rain site, Glenview Mansion); Free; Call 301-309-3354

For more information on City events, call the Public Information Office at 301-309-3322. To register for Recreation and Parks' programs, call 301-309-3340.

## Imagine Rockville

**11 Technology Action Team;** 7:15 p.m.; City Manager's Office Conference Room, City Hall

**18 Town Center Action Team;** 7 p.m.; Location to be announced

To join an "Imagine Rockville" Action Team or to find out about meetings, call the hotline at 301-315-6556 or visit the City's Web site at [www.ci.rockville.md.us](http://www.ci.rockville.md.us).

## For Seniors

**5 Birthday Party;** 1:30 p.m.; Activity #8521; Register by June 28; Free

**5,11,19 Blood Pressure Screening;** 10 a.m.; Free

**7 Pressed-Flower Lamp;** 1 p.m; Activity #8511; Register by June

continued on pg. 3...



# City Projects UPDATE

## Recreation and Parks

### Hungerford/Stoneridge

**Elwood Smith Community Center** • General renovations, accessibility upgrades, and room added • construction in summer

**Dawson Farm Park** • Adding Ritchie Pkwy. dead-end • includes picnic area, historical marker, and artwork • construction in summer/fall

### Lincoln Park

**Community Center** • Renovations and adding space • will house computer center and a police substation • underway • completion in summer

**Isreal Park Ballfield** • Improvements to ballfield drainage • construction in fall

### King Farm

#### King Farm Park/Elementary School

**Park** • Concept plan completed with ballfields, playgrounds, pathways, passive space, and tennis and basketball courts • construction in summer/fall

### Potomac Woods/Horizon Hill

**Falls Rd.** • Bike trail on Wootton Pkwy. to Dunster Rd. • east side • construction in summer

### West End

**Skate Park At Welsh Park** • Final design in review • will include ramps, quarter pipes, etc. for in-liners, skateboarders, and bikes • construction in summer

### General Projects

**Millennium Trail** • Phase I (along Wootton Pkwy from Falls Rd. to Glen Mill Rd.) design complete • grant awarded • construction to begin in fall • Phase II (along Norbeck Rd., from Gude Dr. to Wootton Pkwy.) design phase beginning

**Montrose Community Center** • General renovations, accessibility upgrades, and roof replacement • construction in fall/winter '00/'01

**Nature Center** • To be located at Civic Center Park near Old Avery Rd. meadow area • design completed • grant received • construction in summer • scheduled to open in winter

**City-Wide Bicycle Route System** • On-road/off-road routes connect neighborhoods with schools, shops, and recreation facilities • routes installed on streets and racks and lockers installed at shops and facilities • educational program ongoing • coordination with the Citizen Bikeway Advisory Committee, police, and Transportation Division

**I-270/Rt. 28 Pedestrian Bridge** • Design beginning • citizen/staff taskforce being formed

**Playground Equipment/Fit Trail** • Playground equipment replaced • Woottons Mill Park (adjacent to Aintree Dr.), Glenora Park, and Twinbrook Park • construction in summer

**Glenview Mansion Historic Master Plan** • Plan for long-term historic preservation of mansion and grounds • in cooperation with Recreation and Park Advisory Board, Cultural Arts Commission, Historic District Commission, docents, and residents

CALL **301-309-3330** FOR MORE INFO

## Public Works

### East Rockville

**Horners Lane Water Tank** • Remove tank in summer/fall • will be coordinated with Highland Ave. roadway improvement • Recreation and Parks Department will work with neighborhoods to determine use of the land

### Hungerford/Stoneridge

**Cabin John Relief Sewer** • Considering options to increase capacity of parts of the old, undersized, sanitary-sewage pipe running from Town Center through the Hungerford/

Stoneridge neighborhood • community input sought • private consultant hired to review

### Lincoln Park

**Ashley Ave.** • Improve localized drainage issues on residential lots • 40 percent resident participation threshold has been met • approximate start in summer

### West End

**Great Falls Rd.** • Improve safety and appearance from Monument St. to W. Montgomery Ave. • project has been funded by State • construction to begin in spring '01

### General Projects

**Avery Rd. Right Turn Lane** • Improve capacity and safety at intersection • install sidewalk/bikeway • initial bids received were twice budget • will look at rebidding • start date unknown

**Asphalt Maintenance** • Approximate start in July, with completion in September • large portion of work will be in the area west of U.S. Interstate 270

**Dale Drive** • Design finished • final meeting with residents • construction to start in summer

**Highland Ave.** • Improve street with turnaround, storm drain, and asphalt paving • survey work completed • design to start in summer • attempting to tie project with removal of water tank from park at end of street • construction in fall

**Neighborhood Traffic Control** • Upcoming speed hump projects pending neighborhood approval: Clagget Dr. and Mt. Vernon Pl. • new traffic control lighting on Wootton Parkway • construction by August

**Street Lighting** • Installing decorative streetlights along S. Washington St. within the historic district

CALL **301-309-3220** FOR MORE INFO

**Watts Branch,** continued from pg. 1

not mean that they will be chosen for construction — only that they are receiving a closer look.

Your input is critical at this point in the study. You are urged to stop by the Open House, view these proposed concepts, and give input.

After receiving this information from interested parties, City staff will make their final recommendations for the Watts Branch Watershed Management Plan. That plan will be presented to the Mayor and Council in late January 2001.

This plan, which will be implemented over 10 years, is the first step in the life of the individual projects. Each will be included in the City's Capital Improvement Program and will go through a final design stage with public information meetings and notices. ❖

CALL **301-309-3217** FOR MORE INFO

• OR •

CALL **301-315-6507** FOR MORE INFO

## Rockville's Asphalt Maintenance Scheduled to Start in July

Rockville's Smoothseal Asphalt Maintenance program is scheduled to begin in early July and should be completed in approximately eight to 10 weeks.

The program — which involves having the edges of the existing asphalt milled off and a new half-inch asphalt surface applied — will take place on the following streets: Allview Dr., Balmoral Ct., Balmoral Dr., Barrington Fare, Bent Pine Ct., Blueberry Ridge Ct., Blue Meadow Rd., Bouldercrest Ct., Chancelet Ct., Crestview Ct., Crestview Dr., Crofton Hill Ln., Dairyfield Ct., Dav Rd., Dundee Ct., Dundee Rd., Echo Ct., Edith Dr., Emily Dr., Eton Overlook, Fairwood Ct., Farm Haven Ct., Farm Haven Dr., Farm Pond Ln., Feather Rock Dr., Feather Rock Pl., Glastonberry Rd., Glenora Ln., Glenmore Terr., Great Pines Ct., Green Pasture Dr., Guy Ct.,

Halifax Ct., Hardwicke Pl., Hastings Circle, Hearthstone Ct., Highwood Rd., Hollyberry Ct., Hurley Ave., Keynes Ln., Leyton Ct., Lily Pond Ct., Lindley Overlook, Lindley Terr., Lodge Ct., Lodge Pl., Longhill Dr., McCormick Ct., McCormick Rd., Monterra Ct., North Commons Way, North Farm Ln., Northrup Ct., Northrup Dr., Olmstead Ct., Pebble Ridge Ct., Richview Ct., Royal Oak Ct., Scott Dr., Scottview Ct., Sherbrooke Way, Sky Ridge Ct., South Fallsmead Way, Starlight Ct., Stonepath Ct., Sunnymede Ct., Sunrise Ct., Sunrise Dr., Wescott Pl., West Kersey Ln., and Windy Knoll Ct.

Signs will be posted in advance of construction, and temporary detours may be established. ❖

CALL **301-309-3220** FOR MORE INFO









## July Program Schedule

### REGULAR PROGRAMS Mayor and Council Live

July 10, 7:30 p.m.  
General Session  
July 17, 7:30 p.m.  
Public Hearing  
July 24, 7:30 p.m.  
General Session

### Meeting Replays

Mon., 7:30 p.m.  
(if no live meeting)  
Sun. and Tues., 7:30 p.m.  
Daily, 1 a.m. and 3 p.m.  
Sun. and Sat., 9 a.m.

### City Hall Report

Daily, 6 a.m., 8 a.m., noon,  
6 p.m., and 10 p.m.

### Mayor and Council Review

Daily, 7:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m.,  
6:30 p.m., and  
10:30 p.m.

### Cityline

Daily, 6:30 a.m., 8:30 a.m.,  
and 12:30 p.m.  
Wed.-Sat., 9:30 p.m.

### SPECIALS

#### Kids Online:

#### Internet Safety

Mon.-Fri., 9:30 a.m.  
Daily, 1 p.m.  
Wed.-Sat., 8:30 p.m. and  
11 p.m.

#### Rockville Arts Place

Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m.  
Daily, 2:30 p.m.  
Wed.-Sat., 7:30 p.m.

#### Caregivers (Diversity)

Wed.-Sat., 8 p.m.  
Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m.  
Daily, 2 p.m.

#### Public Safety Awards

Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m.  
Daily, 1:30 p.m.  
Wed.-Sat., 9 p.m.  
Sun., Mon., and Tues.,  
11 p.m.

#### Economic Development

Daily, 7 p.m.



### Rockville Bikeways

Safety on all the City's bikeways is a primary concern. Please call 301-315-5796 or e-mail bikeways@ci.rockville.md.us to report any debris on bikeways, sign damage, or other problems you encounter when cycling.

# Inside City Hall

## Meetings, Minutes, etc.

### Minutes Highlights

From the March 13 and 27 meetings:

The Mayor and Council

- Appointed: Lynn Perry Parker (Human Rights Commission) and Kernan Chaisson (Montgomery County Cable Communications Advisory Committee).
- Modified price agreement #19210 to CTI Consultants Inc., of Rockville, in the amount of \$85,000 in additional funds, for consultant, construction, inspection, and testing services.
- Introduced a resolution and adopted an ordinance to adopt a revised and updated forest conservation manual pursuant to chapter 10.5 of the City Code entitled "Forest and Tree Preservation."
- Adopted resolutions to revise and establish a fee schedule for: permits required pursuant to chapter 12 of the Rockville City Code entitled "Licenses, Permits, and Miscellaneous Business Regulations" of the Rockville City Code; zoning and planning applications and permits and other related fees; for licensing of rental units within the City of Rockville; fees, pursuant to chapter 10.5 entitled "Forest and Tree Preservation" of the Rockville City Code; licenses, permits inspections, and certifications required by chapter 5 of the Rockville City Code including building, plumbing, electrical, and mechanical permits, licenses, and inspections, and to establish other related fees and bonding and insurance requirements; the issuance of sediment control permits by the Department of Public Works and for related plan review and inspection; and certain permits and approvals issued by the Department of Public Works and related engineering review pertaining to road construction and related works.
- Adopted a resolution to approve and adopt articles of organization and an amended and restated cooperation agreement between the Housing Authority of the City of Rockville and the Mayor and Council, transforming the Housing Authority to Rockville Housing Enterprises, broadening its power and authority.
- Approved use permit amendment application USA89 440B, Whalen Family Trust, applicant, which will allow the development of 94,300 square feet of office space and 7,500 square feet of ground floor retail in a building at 11 N. Washington St.
- Awarded contract #8502050276 to A. Morton Thomas and Associates Inc., of Rockville., in the amount of \$41,250, for engineering services.
- Approved a modification of purchase #19069 to Romano Concrete Construction, of Silver Spring, Md., and purchase #19070 to Cyclos Inc., of Beltsville, Md., in the amount of \$150,000 each, for additional concrete maintenance.
- Adopted the City of Rockville Street Tree Master Plan.
- Approved 2000-2001 fees for the Rockville Municipal Swim Center and RedGate Municipal Golf Course.
- Gave instructions to staff regarding annexation petition ANX97-0126, Francis O.Day and William T. Wheeler, petitioners, which would annex 8.08 acres of land located at 501 Dover Rd., on three adjacent, parcels and including a portion of Soutlawn Ln.

nexation petition ANX97-0126, Francis O.Day and William T. Wheeler, petitioners, which would annex 8.08 acres of land located at 501 Dover Rd., on three adjacent, parcels and including a portion of Soutlawn Ln.

The complete minutes from the Mayor and Council meetings are available from the City Clerk's Office, 111 Maryland Ave., or by calling 301-309-3310.

### Mayor & Council Calendar

July 10, 7:30 p.m. .... General Session  
July 17, 7:30 p.m. .... Public Hearing  
(if needed) and Work Session

July 24, 7:30 p.m. .... General Session  
All meetings, unless noted, are in the Mayor and Council Chambers, Rockville City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., at 7:30 p.m.

Council meetings are televised live on Rockville Cable 53 (cable-ready 33). Meetings are replayed at 7:30 p.m. on Mondays, if there is no live meeting scheduled; Tuesdays and Sundays at 7:30 p.m.; daily at 1 a.m. and 3 p.m.; and Sundays and Saturdays at 9 a.m.

### Mayor & Council Drop-In

The Mayor and one Councilmember are available to meet with residents on a drop-in basis in the Mayor and Council Office at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., from 5:30-7 p.m., on Mondays when there is a General Session or a Public Hearing. The front door of City Hall is open during this time.

July 10 ..... Anne Robbins  
July 17 ..... Bob Wright  
July 24 ..... Bob Dorsey

While Drop-In is on a first-come, first-served basis, visitors are urged to call 301-309-3310 ahead of time so we are better prepared to serve your needs and to verify the meeting schedule.

### Vacancies

#### Board of Supervisors of Elections

(one vacancy): This five-member body, with members appointed by the Mayor and Council, conducts all City elections and voter registration and keeps records of these functions. Terms begin on the first Monday of June and run for four years, until successors are appointed and qualified.

#### Historic District Commission (two vacancies):

This five-member commission makes recommendations to the Mayor and Council regarding the boundaries of districts that are of historic or architectural value to the city. Members review applications for construction, changes, etc. in those districts. Members serve overlapping, three-year terms.

#### Personnel Appeals Board (one vacancy):

Members of this three-member body are appointed by the Mayor and Council and serve for overlapping, three-year terms. It hears and decides all appeals and applications for variances and special exceptions, as provided for in the Zoning Ordinance or other City ordinances.

**Planning Commission (two vacancies):** This seven-member commission formulates Rockville's Master Plan and revises it when necessary. It also reviews and makes recommendations to the Mayor and Council on applications for map and text amendments and to the Board of Appeals on variance and special exception applications. In addition, it reviews and decides applications for use permits and subdivision plans. It also initiates and conducts such other planning studies and functions as necessary. Terms are overlapping and run five years.

**Rockville Housing Enterprises (one vacancy):** Comprised of five members, this independent body functions under federal and state law. Members are appointed by the Mayor and Council for the purpose of investigating the need for building and administering such housing in the city as is found to be necessary.

#### Rockville Sister City Corp. (two vacancies):

The Mayor and Council appoint three citizens to the 15-member board of this group which: strengthens existing ties with Pinneberg, Germany; encourages the exchange of ideas between the cities; and recommends steps that can further facilitate the friendship.

If you wish to serve on a citizen's board or commission, call the City Clerk at 301-309-3310 for an Expression of Interest Form.

### Boards & Commissions Calendar

All meetings are at City Hall, unless otherwise noted. Please call the City Clerk's Office at 301-309-3310 to verify the schedule.

#### July 7, 4 p.m.

Sign Review Board

#### July 8, 9 a.m.

Board of Appeals

#### July 11, 7:30 p.m.

Human Services Advisory Commission,  
32 Courthouse Sq.

#### July 11, 7:30 p.m.

Science, Technology, and Environment  
Commission

#### July 12 and 26, 7:30 p.m.

Planning Commission

#### July 12, 7 p.m.

Bicycle Advisory Committee

#### July 18, 7 p.m.

Historic District Commission

#### July 18, 1:30 p.m.

Rockville Seniors Inc., Senior Center

#### July 19, 6:30 p.m.

Rockville Housing Enterprises,  
14 Moore Dr.

#### July 20, 5 p.m.

Board of Supervisors of Elections

#### July 20, 7:30 p.m.

Sister City Corp.

#### July 25, 7:30 p.m.

Traffic and Transportation Commission

#### July 25, 5:30 p.m.

Landlord/Tenant Affairs Commission

#### July 26, 7:30 p.m.

Human Rights Commission

#### July 27, 10 a.m.

Senior Commission, Senior Center

#### July 27, 7 p.m.

Recreation and Park Advisory Board,  
Swim Center